

INFORMATION REPORT  
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CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

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SUBJECT Minister of Health, Luitpold Steidle

DATE DISTR. 15 February 1954

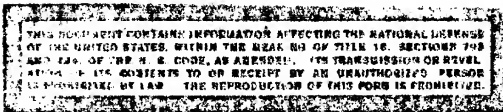
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1. East German Minister for Health Luitpold Steidle (East CDU) has been having more and more trouble with the SED authorities, not only because he is not a member of the SED, but also because he has made attempts to protect East German interests against Russian demands. For example, Steidle recently objected to the import of 23 kilograms of streptomycin for the Russian occupation authorities from West Germany. Steidle's unpopularity with SED authorities is characterized by the fact that his State Secretary, Jenny Matern, has to countersign all important documents signed by the Minister. Frau Matern also participates in all sessions of the Council of Ministers along with Steidle.

2. Rosemarie Clausen, also a member of the East CDU, was forced to give up her job as Steidle's personal Referent on 1 May 1953. In June 1953, she was replaced by Dr. Schmautz (fmu), who was formerly Bezirk physician in the Buhl Bezirk. He is a member of the SED. While it is clear that Clausen was replaced by Schmautz for political reasons.

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